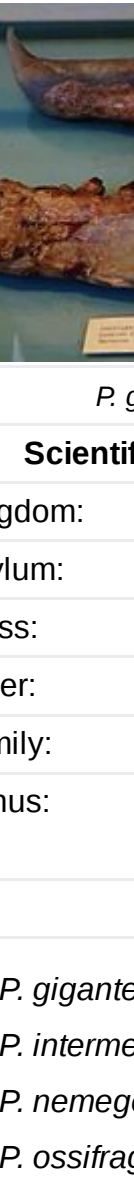


Unlike many mesonychids, *Pachyaena* is known from skeletal material in addition to skulls and jaws. Analysis of three wolf- to bear-sized species from the early Eocene of Wyoming (Willwood formation) indicates they all had many adaptations for running, including paraxonic compressed feet with a vestigial first digit, lower sections of the limbs elongated compared with the upper sections, and limb joints with movement mostly restricted to a sagittal plane (back-and-forth movement). All these characteristics are common to

Size varied depending on the species: For *P. gracilis*, the body mass estimated based in femur length is 24.0 kg, for *P. ossifraga* is about 56.9 kg, and for the large *P. gigantea* is 81.7 kg.^{[4][5]} However weight estimations of *P. qigantea* vary from 129 to 396 kg.^[6]

<i>Pachyaena</i>										
Temporal range:										
Paleocene–Early Eocene										
PreЄ	Є	O	S	D	C	P	T	J	K	PgN
										
<i>P. gigantea</i> jaws										
Scientific classification										
Kingdom:	Animalia									
Phylum:	Chordata									
Class:	Mammalia									
Order:	Mesonychia									
Family:	Mesonychidae									
Genus:	<i>Pachyaena</i> Cope, 1874									
Species										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>P. gigantea</i> ■ <i>P. intermedia</i> ■ <i>P. nemegetica</i> ■ <i>P. ossifraga</i> ■ <i>P. gracilis</i> 										

Species

The genus' greatest diversity is seen in North America, with *P. ossifraga* known from Latest Paleocene strata of Wyoming, and *P. gigantea*, *P. intermedia*, and *P. gracilis* known from Early Eocene strata of Wyoming. *P. nemegetica* is known from Late Paleocene strata of Mongolia.

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